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INDEPENDENT MOVEMENT IN TEXAS.

STINGING UNDER THE DEFEAT OF FREE SILVER COINAGE.

Harry Tracy Says a Political Revolution Is Going on Which Will Become a Power in Politics.

A *News* reporter yesterday interviewed Harry Tracy on the progress of the independent political movement. Tracy proceeded to outline its progress and the conditions which brought it about as follows:

The independents are organizing with unprecedented rapidity and in good numbers. We already have 839 clubs reported, and each day the number increases. These clubs cover 143 counties. Nothing like it has ever transpired in this country. The movement is general throughout the state, over 200 new clubs having been organized and reported since the Dallas conference held the 11th of April. The public may rest assured that this revolt means business. The class of men enlisting in the independent ranks are solid citizens of every trade and profession; they are made of that kind of stuff that never moves till compelled, but when they do move it is permanent and for just cause. The partisan manipulators who are alone responsible for this defection will live to rue the day when they forced the people to repudiate machine methods, and when it is too late they will wish they had paid more attention to the demands of the people, and had been governed less by the money mongers and selfish interests. The people of this country have decided that the only way to secure needed reforms is to vote for them, and the easiest way to down arrogant party bossism is to build a new party based upon principles formulated by themselves, and leave the old timers to run the machine without aid or assistance. Judging from the manner in which they are taking hold they are going to succeed. It would be a fatal mistake to judge this movement by any previous one, for this, unlike the others, is based upon sound economic principles as old as Jeffersonian Republicanism itself. They have been discussed for years by those who believed that we must have economic reforms. It has been an accepted theory, especially in the south, that the Democratic party would grant the reforms demanded. Congressmen, in debating these demands on the stump and through the press during the past year, begged the people to hold onto the party a little longer, affirming that the lower house of the Fifty-second congress would be sure to give the people substantial reform. This promise was accepted without question by the people, until they saw fifty-one New England, New York and Pennsylvania Democrats bulldoze 174 southern and western Democrats into defeating the free coinage of silver, when nearly every one of them were pledged to support it. This action on the part of the lower house of congress, coupled with the acts of our own state legislature in refusing to adopt a resolution instructing Texas representatives in

congress to vote for the free coinage of silver and also the killing of the uniform text book bill during the called session by the same men who passed it one year ago by a practically unanimous vote, was the straw that broke the camel's back and closed the last door of hope outside of a political union with the northwest, which has been effected, and their actions have welded them so solidly that it will be impossible to disrupt it.

Men like myself who have grown gray in the ranks of the Democratic party held on as long as there was one ray of hope. It was like pulling eye teeth to turn loose. It was like leaving home, wife and children forever, but when the issue narrowed down to bowing in submission to the tyrannical exactions of the northeast or to pull out of the ranks and work and vote for our constitutional rights, we chose to stand by our rights and those of our posterity by forming an alliance with the northwest, whose every interest is identical with ours, and who have stepped upon the platform that we ourselves substantially wrote. The battle is going to be a long and bitter one. We have not acted without counting the cost. We are prepared for the worst. We are fighting for every blessing that freedom gives and against the curse that slavery entails. We war not for place nor profit, but for clear-cut principles that are just and honorable, and for reforms that must be had if a republican form of government survives. The joint debates had during the last year convinced every unprejudiced mind who heard them that our demands are eminently necessary; that they are constitutional and perfectly practical, and if enacted into laws will forever destroy the power of money to oppress. We believe, in fact, we know, that the constitution of the United States delegates to congress the exclusive power to coin money and regulate the value thereof, and that this right carries with it the moral and legal duty on the part of congress to issue sufficient money to do the business of the country upon a conservative cash basis. It naturally follows that it is obligatory on congress to devise ways and means to put that money into the channels of trade without the chances of speculation upon it by any class, and without favoritism. We know that congress has persistently refused to discharge its duty in this all important matter, and we are satisfied it has been constrained to ignore this plain duty through the bulldozing methods of Wall street and the usurers of the northeast. Just so long as the people hold to the Democratic or Republican parties as now manipulated by the northeast, just so long will the wholesale spoliation of the south and northwest continue. If not stopped, New England and her European accomplices will absorb the property of the nation, which cannot and will not be tolerated by free men. The effort to sidetrack the money question will prove futile. The people thoroughly understand that the relative amount of money in circulation to the demand for its use puts down the price on labor and its product. They know that scarce money

means hard times and idle people, and that plenty of money brings with it high wages, good times and employment for all, and consequently prosperity and happiness. They understand that money has the same effect upon civilization that blood has upon the human system. The member of congress standing for re-election or the candidate for congress who advises the people to stick to the Democratic or Republican machine as now adjusted is going to have a rocky road to travel except in the New England states, and in some of these they will not have a walk-over. For the first time since 1860 they have to defend their record and the methods of their party managers. Any effort to arouse sectional hate will be a failure. The force bill argument will be laughed to scorn, for it is a well known fact that the force bill met its death at the hands of the reform movement in the north and west and that the united labor organizations officiated at its funeral at Ocala. The old partisan leaders will soon learn that the people have been using their heads, as well as their hands, and that they no longer accept their sermons for gospel without proof. They are now perfectly competent to sift testimony and separate buncombe from facts. Old isms are being rapidly discarded, sectional prejudices is a thing of the past, and the people of the south much prefer a political alliance with the northwest to a submission to the dictum of the goldbugs of the northeast. Party creeds are moth eaten; old sectional walls are crumbling to pieces under the rays of increasing political knowledge. The people no longer fear to speak and act. The reform press has sown the seed in good ground, and it has brought forth an independent press, free speech, free thought, and all are fearless, aggressive and manly. The common people no longer squirm under the sting of the party lash, and sneak into line at the bidding of the party boss, but with head erect and brow undaunted, they ask boldly why these unjust conditions exist, and who is responsible for them. They will not down at any man's bidding. They are determined to move straight ahead and will have a direct answer. He who expects the votes of the people must advocate a government of the people, by the people and for the people, and must state plainly that he is in favor of congress discharging its constitutional duty to the people in all things, and especially that of finance. The people no longer ask if this or that is so, but why is it so? They will have the truth of the matter or leave the candidate out in the cold on election day. They are now marching to headquarters to know upon what authority and under what influence fifty-one northeastern Democrats bulldozed 174 other Democrats into killing free coinage of silver. Among the questions that will be asked aspirants to congressional honors may be enumerated the following: How many tramps are there in the United States? What made so many tramps? How many homes are there mortgaged in the United States? Who own

these mortgages? How much is the average per cent. per annum on them? How much interest can agriculturists pay per annum and remain owners of their homes? How much have agriculturists accumulated per annum during the last forty years? What does that accumulation consist of? Who controls the volume of money in the United States? How did they get control of it? Where is the financial center and power in the United States? How did that power come to be located there? Do those who control the money dictate the laws? Why are wages low? What will increase wages? Why do the Democratic and Republican parties place the head or tail of their tickets in New York? Will New York and New England ever consent to legislation that will take their usurious grip off the people of the south and west? What's the remedy? What are you going to do about these things if elected? Can we ever get relief while New England's in the saddle? What constitutional or other objections do you have to the sub-treasury plan? Have we enough money in circulation? What's your plan of putting sufficient money into the hands of the people? Many of our political bosses are so imbued with their own importance that they honestly believe that they must save the country by bossing the people. This has assisted in producing a political condition that will assist in their early overthrow. In abolishing chattel slavery, industrial slavery was established in its stead, which is a thousand times worse than negro slavery ever was. If the Hazard circular was a myth, it has proven to be a prophecy. The old system of chattel slavery never wrung \$5,000,000 annually from the toil of the negro, without giving care and comfort to his bodily well being. Yet we see hundreds of millions annually wrung from the sweat of the white slaves, under the present system of industrial slavery. It matters little in effect to the slave whether he is driven through rice and cotton fields under the lash of his master's whip, or through the rain, sleet and freezing cold by debasing pressure of pitiless mortgage. Under the old system there were 6,000,000 slaves; under the new, over 45,000,000. The old time negro slave was carefully housed, fed and clothed, because of his property value, while now the white slave is poorly fed and clad and without a house, and when sick or old can rot or become an inmate of the poorhouse, because he is valueless, and besides there is always a new crop on hand at no cost to the master. New England howled against the sin of negro slavery, while now they grow rich upon the blood money of the white slaves, who are their own countrymen and in many cases of their own blood. They unscrupulously pocket this blood money, and, with unblushing hypocrisy, pray for the salvation of the heathen. These men rule the United States with an iron rod through the machinery of the Republican and Democratic parties, and the people can see no hope to obtain justice and freedom under either of the old party banners. Can anybody wonder that men renounce such party fealty and enter upon an independent campaign to right the wrongs that have been so ruthlessly thrust upon them?